Folder 19: Waggoner, David (Juneau) 1935-1940

NATIONAL MISSIONS
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON CH.
WRANGELL, ALASKA
FOREIGN MISSIONS
REV. H. W. GREIG, CH.
SITKA, ALASKA
PENSIONS
(_____), CH.
AND STATED CLERK

PRESBYTERY
OF ALASKA

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
REV. C. WARREN GRIFFITHS, CH.
SKAGWAY, ALASKA
STATED CLERK
REV. DAVID WAGGONER
BOX 1421
JUNEAU, ALASKA

Juneau, Alaska,
January 24, 1935.

Dr. John M. Somerndike,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

My dear Doctor:

The Rev.Russell F. Pederson of Wrangell, our National Missions Chairman, has written me that you have definite plans to come to Alaska in March and will be present at our Spring meeting of the Presbytery of Alaska. He has asked me to write to you as to the time set for the meeting. He also wrote that you desire an extension of two or more days at the close of Presbytery business for a conference with the men.

The regular meeting of the Presbytery will occur on the first Wednesday of April, April 3rd. The meeting is to be at Klawock on the west coast of the Prince of Wales Island. Klawock is about 30 miles from Hydaburg, and 6 miles from Craig. It is also 110 miles from Wrangell and about 135 miles from Ketchikan. Just what will be our itinerary on the Princeton I am unable to say at this timw, for that is in charge of Mr.Swanson.

The Program of Presbytery for our Spring Meeting follows somewhat on this order; Convene on arrival Wednesday if possible, and organize. Then each day from 9:00 to 11:30 in the morning business as per docket. 11:30 to 12:00 regular Bible devotional period under the leadership of one of the men appointed for the course. The afternoon from 2:00 to 5:00 business. Each evening a popular meeting. One evening is under the charge of the Presbyterial. The Communion Service of Presbytery is always held on Sunday morning which permits the members of the enetertaining church to fellowship with the visiting members of Presbytery.

At the meeting last year it was ordered that two hours each afternoon should be devoted to conferance and spiritual uplift. The Clerk and the Christian Education Committee to plan the program. Last year I made out, as Clerk, an itemized program for the meeting. We have been wasting considerable time over matters which can be cared for by a written report to the proper committee and handled by them. The men felt that we had gained much last year by the program. We will follow the same plan next April. We can save much time next meeting over the last by cutting down some items and rearranging others. This I am sure will give us the hours from 3:00 to 5:00 P.M. for the desired uplift hours.

Your visit opens up for us a plan for these hours. We want a period each day which will stimulate us spiritually, and also give us inspiration for meeting the problems of our fields. This is what the men had in mind. You desire two days for conference with the men re the work as it relates itself to the Board. I have talked with one or two men about the extra time you ask for and your probable topics for conference. May I make a suggestion which seems to be the men's idea

will get the best results? Would it not be better to have part of your conference each day of the session, which would give us all an opportunity to think over and digest the points or plans proposed? Thus we would arrive at a better conclusion regarding plans and problems.

This plan will mean that each day beginning Thursday you will conduct your planned conference from 4:00 to 5:00 P.M. Presbytery will take as much time after Sunday as required to complete the conference you have in mind, and the during the sessions of Presbytery the men will have opportunity to formulate any questions which they have , or may arise in their minds. Will this meet your approval?

Now as to the hour from 3:00 to 4:00 P.M. Would you take over this hour for us? You can choose your own topic or topics. We were thinking of a study of Leadership Training, or Young People's Conferences, or some direct organized Bible study. This is only suggestive since the Committee has not considered the matter in detail.

It has been my custom as Clerk and Program Committee to ask one of the new men to lead the Devotional Hour each day (11:30 to 12:00), since coming so recently to the field they have no committee work assigned them by Presbytery hence have more time for this work than the other members of Presbytery. This devotional hour in the morning does not in any way conflict with the afternoon program.

I want to get the program and docket arranged at as early a date as possible. If it will be convenient for you I would greatly appreciate your reaction to the suggestions made above. If it meets your approval we will give the last afternoon hour each day for your conference, and extend the regular meetings of Presbytery until all business has been completed. We will greatly appreciate having you lead the special hour of uplift or instruction from 3:00 to 4:00 P.M. if it will not be asking too much from you. If you can give us this help, will you not let me know as early as possible, and if you are able, the theme of the hour.

We are very much pleased over the prospect of your visit to our Alaska Presbytery. I am sure your seeing at first hand will be of mutual advantage in solving the problems of the fields. Anything that Mrs. Waggoner and I may be able to do to make your visit pleasant and profitable we will gladly do. Any information you may desire from us here, or information as to your plans you may send us, will be considered a special privilege.

With best wishes for you and for your proposed visit, I am

Sincerely yours,

David Waggoner

February
5th
1935

Rev. David Waggoner,
Box 1421,
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Waggoner:

I have your letter suggesting plans for my visit to Alaska, and I thank you very much for all the arrangements you have so kindly made to make my visit helpful and satisfactory in every way. I am sorry to inform you, however, that I have written to Mr. Pederson today, stating that I now find it impossible to come. There are a number of reasons which have brought me to this decision, and I assure you that all of them concern the best interests of the Alaska work.

If I can come in the fall, I will do so, but this is not an absolute promise. The limitations of the present budget make it necessary for us to sink all personal considerations and desires for the sake of the work. Your Committee is carrying on in such a splendid and satisfactory way that my presence is not actually needed just now. There are no difficult or pressing problems, and we seem to be getting along very well handling the situations as they arise by correspondence. I am deeply disappointed, of course, but this is not the first disappointment in my life and I still have my expectations which will sustain me until the time comes when I can carry out my plans and desires.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

Feb.
25th
1937

Rev. David Waggoner,
Box 1421,
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Waggoner:

Replying to yours of January 21st, I would suggest that the name of the church be changed after the new building is erected.

I will send you a greeting from our Board to be read in connection with the fiftieth anniversary of your church in April.

Please convey to your congregation this expression of our sincere appreciation of their fine response in the matter of contributing toward local support and for benevolences. It is very gratifying to note the progress that your people are making along these lines.

With every good wish, I am

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

Feb.
1st
1937

Rev. David Waggoner,
Box 1421,
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Waggoner:

Your letter of January 21st has been received during Dr. Somerndike's absence from the office on an extended field trip, but upon his return the latter part of this month he will undoubtedly write you. In the meantime we have turned into the treasury the checks which you enclosed for $28.95 and $19.50, with instructions for credit as you designated. The receipts will be sent to you within the next few days.

Very sincerely yours,

BH Secretary to Dr. Somerndike.

NATIONAL MISSIONS
REV. JOHN A. GLASSE, CH.
JUNEAU, ALASKA

UNITED PROMOTION
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.
WRANGELL, ALASKA

FOREIGN MISSIONS
REV. DONALD G. CHRISTIANSEN, CH.
KETCHIKAN, ALASKA

PRESBYTERY
OF ALASKA

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
REV. A. D. SWOGGER, CH.
METLAKATLA, ALASKA

PENSIONS
REV. DAVID WAGGONER, CH.
JUNEAU, ALASKA

STATED CLERK
REV. DAVID WAGGONER
BOX 1421, JUNEAU, ALASKA

Juneau, Alaska,
January 21, 1937.

Dr.John M. Somerndike,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Doctor:

I have sent the Application Blanks for Aid to Rev. John A.Glasse for the recommendation of the National Missions Committee of Presbytery, Owing to absence of the members of the Congregation from town, followed by sickness of the members of the Canvass Committee we were unable to finish until the 1st. It was our goal to see every member of the Church and get a pledge if possible. Most of the families could not make a regular pledge, but they do contribute to the church as they are able,in the loose collection. We feel that we have accomplished a great deal. In the first place we have 18 who pledge and take envelops. Last year there were three at the beginning of the year. The pledge for Expense for the year is $113.95. Last year the loose collection amounted to more than this, so we have an increase in this. The Benevolences have taken a great advance, which I hope will all be paid. The amount is $106.60.

I am enclosing draft to the Central Receiving Agency for the sum of $28.95. This is the amount in the treasury to December 13th. We could not forward it sooner on account of the absence of the Treasurer. We wanted the treasurer to send in the money. There will be another remittance the last of March. The above amount together with offerings sent in with my reports, and special offering for the Board of Foreign Missions,makes our quota already. So we will go over by the amount paid in from December 13th to March 25th.

Our people have pledged and paid in $19.50 towards the pastor's Salary. I am enclosing that amount to the Board. This is refund to the Board and not counted on the benevolent quota of the Church. The remainder pledged for salary will be sent in soon. We are thankful for the advance in taking an interest in the salary of the minister. For a time it will be best to send the amounts collected as a refund to the Board. The older people understand this best. Soon the Young People will be the Church. Then we can handle everything systematically.

You will recall that the April Meeting of Presbytery is hald in Juneau in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of our Church. We are planning an opening service with greetings from civic and ecclesiastic bodies. Will you not mark on your scratch pad the fact of this service and send us a greeting from the Board? We will appreciate it very much.

Do you think that we should change the name of the Church at the Spring Meeting, or wait until the plant is erected?

Sincerely yours,

David Waggoner

Mar.
1st
1937

Rev. David Waggoner,
Box 1421,
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Waggoner:

I wish to express to the congregation of the First Presbyterian Church of Juneau the felicitations of our Board on the occasion of their fiftieth anniversary. In looking back over the history of mission work in Alaska during the past fifty years, we are conscious of the important and strategic position which the church in Juneau has occupied through the Christian influence which has radiated from your congregation to all parts of the Territory since the beginning of Christian work in your community.

It is gratifying to think of those who have been won to Christ through the ministry of your church and of their faithful witness to the transforming power of Christ among their own people not only in Juneau but in other localities. We are grateful also for the faithfulness and devotion of the leaders which God has given them during these years, who have ministered to their needs in a spirit of self-sacrifice, and who have opened to them the rich treasures of God's Word, comforting them in their sorrows, rejoicing with them in their victories, and sharing all the circumstances of their lives in keeping with the spirit of Jesus who came not to be ministered unto but to minister to the needs of others.

As you begin the second half century of your service for Christ among the native people of Juneau, it is our earnest prayer that God may strengthen you for the tasks that lie before you and that you may be united in the accomplishment of greater victories than those which have already been achieved, and that your lives may constantly be enriched by a deeper and closer fellowship with Jesus who is the great Head of the Church.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

Board of National Missions
of the Presbyterian Church in the
United States of America
156 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

June
15th
1938

Rev. David Waggoner,
Box 421,
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Waggoner:

I am enclosing herewith a page from THE STAR WEEKLY of Toronto, which describes the very romantic missionary enterprise that is being carried on by the Board of Home Missions of the United Church of Canada. It appealed to me very strongly as a type of work that might well be introduced into our program of Presbyterian missions in southeastern Alaska. Of course, we have the Princeton, and I realize that it is used occasionally to carry sick people to the hospital and for other types of work similar to what is described in this article; but it has always seemed to me that the Princeton is kept so busy on other errands that it does not seem possible to use it specifically for a program of human welfare and evangelism such as is visualized in the activity of the United Church Marine Missions on the British Columbia coast. If there is need in that area, it seems to me that there is still more need among the natives in southeastern Alaska.

Since I have been obliged to abandon my hope primarily ~~rather despair~~ of using the Princeton for this type of work, much as I would like to see it done, I have had it in mind to give Walter Soboleff an appointment to do this very kind of work when he graduates from Dubuque next spring. The girl he is going to marry is a trained nurse; and if we could appoint them as itinerant missionaries, equip them with a boat not nearly so large or pretentious as the Princeton, I believe they would be able to carry out the plan which I have longed to inaugurate in our work in southeastern Alaska but for which the way has not seemed to be clear since I found that the Princeton either was not available or not adaptable to this type of ministry.

My purpose in sending this article to you is, first of all, to sow the idea of inaugurating work of this kind in the minds of the members of Alaska Presbytery; and, second, to secure the reaction of each of you to the plan which I have in mind, to appoint Walter Soboleff as an itinerant evangelist, equipped with a boat, and with his wife as a nurse to carry on a purely evangelistic work among the natives in the little villages and canneries, whom we do not reach in the program of the Princeton and among whom it is not necessary or advisable to establish churches or to erect church buildings. What we want above all things is to take Christ into the hearts and lives of individual natives, and I shall never feel that our program of Alaska missions is ~~really~~ thoroughly efficient until we have a missionary who is reaching the scattered, isolated, and unevangelized portion of the native population who are living in the small villages all along the southeastern Alaska coast.

I am taking you into my confidence in this matter, and I hope you will write me frankly giving me your reaction to these plans which I have in mind and which I have discussed with Walter Soboleff with his hearty approval, and which have been brought to a focus by the reading of this article concerning the Marine Missions of the United Church, of ~~which~~ whose ministry I was not aware until this paper came into my hands.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

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15th
1938

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Box 421
Juneau, Alaska

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Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

St.Paul, Minn.,
June 19, 1937.

Dr. John M. Somerndike,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Doctor:

Mrs. Waggoner and I are on our way to the Coast, reaching here this morning from Kansas City. We remain until Monday morning and then for Seattle.

We left the Assembly Wednesday noon for Kansas City to perform Roberts marriage ceremony on the evening of the 3rd in Dr.McKelvy's Church. We had a very nice service and got the young people duly tied. On Sunday evening the 6th we met with the Presbytery of Kansas City at Parkville. The Presbytery invited me to sit as a corresponding member and invited me to give the charge to the new minister. This was a great honor and privilege. Robert and his wife left that evening for New York and South America.

Ralph and his wife left for Alaska the next morning after the wedding. I have not heard from him re the option on the lots for the new plant/ I suspect that he has written to Seattle, not being sure where he could reach me on our itinerary. I am very anxious to hear from him as to the option and from you as to plans for the buildings and program for construction. We reach Seattle Wednesday morning. Our mail address will be Dr.Thomson's Office.

I had an operation on my nose while in Kansas City. The cutting is not yet fully healed. Nothwithstanding the sore nose I was able to go to visit my brother in Sedalia. I had the morning service, talked to the general Sunday School, and conducted a conference with the adult class. The class wanted to know details of the work and were brisk in their questions. In the evening I went out to the Greenridge Church about 16 miles southwest of Sedalia. I had an opportunity to speak to the young people and to the entire congregation at the evening service. I visited the Synod of Missouri for two days during its sessions, but did not have an opportunity to speak on Alaska work.The Youth Movement was organized by the Synod. This cut short the time which should have been given to National Missions.

Mrs. Waggoner is to undergo her goiter operation in Seattle. I plan to be with her. If the operation goes through as hoped for by the clinic I will be able to fulfill the request of Dr.Egly that I visit Riverside while in the States. What is your desire in the matter, and can we secure transportation to Riverside and return? The Doctors will have all of our cask by the time Mrs. Waggoner comes out of the hospital. Will you kindly let me know about the Juneau building program and what plans to make re Riverside.

Sincerely yours,

David Waggoner.

June
21st
1937

Rev. David Waggoner,
c/o Rev. James Thomson, D.D.,
1203 American Bank Bldg.,
Seattle, Wash.

Dear Mr. Waggoner:

Mr. Glasse has written me, protesting very vigorously against my decision in favor of the property you selected for the new native church. In all decency and respect, I must give him an opportunity to present his reasons for objecting - which I have requested him to send at once. He also states that the reasons which I gave for approving your property are "glaring misstatements". He seems to be quite disturbed.

I want the matter settled as soon as possible, and it does seem strange to me that he and you cannot resolve this difficulty between yourselves without the intervention of anybody at all from the outside. However, my present word to you is simply to wait until further advice before you notify the owner of the lots that we are ready to buy. I am wiring this information to Ralph today.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

Juneau, Alaska,
August 20, 1938.

Our summer monthe have been affected more than usual by the scattering of our people to canneries and other places of labor. Many have been engaged in trolling for salmon, some have joined halibut boats. More have been absent from town than usual.

Other places for worship for the Natives have been closed. Our Mission has held services every Sunday. Not always the same persons were present in the services. Sometimes we have had a complete new congregation for the evening of the same Sunday. The children who have been in the village have come to Sunday School quite faithfully.

During the summer we have had less drinking in the village. Since the return of those going to the canneries we have had more drinking. Most of those who are habitually drinking seem to be those who belong to other congregations. However the need of spiritual help is as great as ever.

Sincerely,

David Waggoner

David Waggoner.

NATIONAL MISSIONS
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.
WRANGELL, ALASKA

UNITED PROMOTIONS
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.
WRANGELL, ALASKA

FOREIGN MISSIONS
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KETCHIKAN, ALASKA

PRESBYTERY
OF ALASKA

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
MR. W. LESLIE YAW, CH.
SITKA, ALASKA

PENSIONS
REV. DAVID WAGGONER, CH.
JUNEAU, ALASKA

STATED CLERK
REV DAVID WAGGONER,
BOX 1421, JUNEAU, ALASKA

Juneau, Alaska,
September 26,1938.

Dear Brother:

Except for the small children who attnd school our people are not yet in town for the winter. The increased price of hook and line fish has induced as many of the people as have gear to go out to the fishing grounds. Few of the people made more than their family expense at the canneries. The hand trolling has therefore been a great blessing. The women spend as much time as possible in the berry patches trying to secure fruit for their winter's food.

We have had a great number of children go out to Sheldon Jackson and Wrangell Institute Schools. These children were in town over one Sunday between cannery work and the opening of School. Twenty four of the young folks assembled at our home for a farewell at the close of the Sunday Evening Service. We were much interested in their expressions of their goals for the future. One wanted to be a minister. Most of the boys are planning for sea life. One boy wants to train himself for a position under the Wheeler Howard Act.

Our people are anxiously awaiting the action of the Board as to the building of the new church building. The decision in this matter will have a great bearing on the future work of the Board and the Presbyterian Church among the Natives of Juneau. The importance of accepting the program and plans for the new work in Juneau is larger and more far reaching than appears to any one outside of the community. A great deal of prayer is arising from our own group and from interested friends of the sister churches of Juneau. The Ministeral Association is intensely interested in the matter.

Sincerely yours,
David Waggoner
David Waggoner.

NATIONAL MISSIONS
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.
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STATED CLERK
REV DAVID WAGGONER,
BOX 1421, JUNEAU, ALASKA

Juneau, Alaska,
October 14,1938.

Dr.John M. Somerndike,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Doctor:

I am enclosing herewith the report of the Juneau First Church for the current month. I am also enclosing draft to the Treasurer for the sum of $28.64 from our benevolent fund to be distributed as follows:

Central Receiving Agency	$21.00
National Board- Special	3.22
Foreign Board- Special	4.42
	$28.64 ✓ 10/17

Will you kindly hand to the proper treasurers.

Most of our people have returned to the town, though some are still out on the fishing grounds attempting to earn something toward their winter's support. Only those fisherman who went to the Bristol Bay country, and a few who trolled made a living this summer. Some since their return have been able to get employment in the C.C.C. work. This gives them enough to buy food for their families.

During part of August and September we have given considerable food to widows with little children. Others we have taken to the berry grounds and helped them to get berries for their winter's eating. We have traveled over 200 miles in helping these needy people. We are thankful that we have had a car with which to give this aid. We have had to go from twenty to twenty five miles from town to find the fruits. Two of our families have been broken up through liquor. The husbands have become so dangerous when under the influence of liquor that for the safety of the wife and children the Court has given the women divorces. The husbands are white men (so Called). We will have many problems this winter to help the needy and help to keep children in school.

I fear we will not be able to hold our accustomed Week Day Bible School this year. We have a new School Head for Juneau and Douglas. He is not favorable to the work. The remaining school force is the same as last year and are very anxious to have us continue the work. The problem was raised here after certain information came from the Hoonah and Wrangell Institute plans.

At Douglas we have been shut out of the School Building. The new man wants to convert the room, formerly used, into a garage for his private car and the School Bus. The Douglas school and Juneau school have been combined. A bus brings the elementary children to Juneau where the building is adapted for that type of work, and the upper grades are transported to Douglas where vocational work can be had. Last Sunday we started work in an unsanitary room in a private house. The room is about 12 feet square. Here we hold Sunday School and Church. Some sort of a chapel is needed for our work if we are to continue. The Roman Catholic and the Alaska Evangelization Society are working to get our people. The latter organization is

the offshoot of the Machen people on the Coast. The Organization is trying to open an orphanage in Douglas. They started last year but closed down because their building was not safe or suitable. They have built something this summer with which to head up their efforts. Both Catholic and Evangelization Society visit the homes of our people and invite them to their services. We will have to consider what we shall do in regard to our own work.

We will not be able to put on the Every Member Canvass until something definite is done about a new church plant for Juneau. We were able to get 102 out for the morning service on Rally Day--Oct. 2-- which shows something of what can be done when a plant is had ~~to~~ which they can be induced to make their church home. The above number did not include the families of many of our young people, the persons whom we are so anxious to secure for the church. They are the leaders of their people. At the rate the older generation is passing, I would say that our church would have very few beyond forty years of age. ~~Our~~ Our field in Juneau is largely for people under thirty. The field for the Sunday School is ripe for a place to hold classes. The Salvation Army and the Pentecostal Mission are visiting our people in the atte mpt to get them into their work before we are able to get a suitable place for Sunday School and Church. The expense of running the present building and the benevolent quota assigned by Presbytery will be met. We cannot secure pledges for more until the church plant is under way. We have not been able to get any one to take envelops since the opposition up town. Giving is done in loose collections and special offerings.

We will be able to resume our Week Day School as soon as we have a place of our own to use. In preparation for the new plant we are attempting a reorganization of our program. The evening Christian Endeavor service has not had the response with the return of the young people from the fishing grounds. Our girl's clubs are functioning, but for lack of space and equipment are not accomplishing the goal set. We are planning Boy Scouts when our leader returns. To take the place of the C.E.Social we are planning a club of the young married people and the older ones of the C.E. We will attempt a program for the younger members of the C.E. of last year in another organization.

Our people are praying and hoping to hear from you favorably this week on the submitted plans &c. I have consulted with the contractor as to getting under way with the building this Fall. He says that he will have no difficulty if the foundation and basement are in before hard freezing weather comes. The interior will be cared for by heat from the heating plant which is planned for installation as soon as the building is enclosed. Two large concrete buildings are still pouring their cement. The new hotel is six stories, the theater is five stories. Neither will be complete until the first of the year. If we start soon we can have the new plant in January, so we are told.

Sincerely yours,

David Waggoner

Dr Somerndike, my hope is that will soon be able to go ahead with Mr Waggoner's project. The church is more needed now than before

Sincerely, Russell F Kelly

October 25th, 1938

Rev. David Waggoner
Box 1421
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Waggoner:

In your recent letter I note your statement with reference to the situation at Douglas. Since the Methodist and Congregational Churches have united in building up a church in Douglas, I am wondering if it would not be wise for us to turn over to them the full responsibility for the Protestant work there, and to withdraw from that field. It would seem that the fact that you are now deprived of the room which you formerly used for the Sunday school would furnish a good occasion for turning over the work to the Methodist-Congregational organization. I shall be glad if you will let me know how you feel about this.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:PDS

October 26, 1938

Rev. David Waggoner
Juneau, Alaska.

Dear Mr. Waggoner:

I am enclosing copy of a letter I am writing to Mr. Troast today. In view of the statement Mr. Troast made in his letter to me, that he could cut down the cost of the building several hundred dollars without materially affecting the building or cutting down the space, I have been obliged, because of the limitations under which I am working and in view of the amount of money which is available, to request that this reduction be made. I have aksed him to wire me after a conference with you, stating whether he succeeded in doing this, and I will then wire final authority to accept bids, and begin the work on the building. It seems to me that there is no reason for any delay.

We will not take into consideration now any plans with reference to the building of the manse. The present manse will have to serve you and the minister who succeeds you until such time as the Board is able to obtain funds to purchase another manse, but we cannot do anything about that for the present.

I have accepted your proposals regarding insulation and silentite windows and am willing that the cost of these additions should be included in the bid, as stated in my letter to Mr. Troast.

We have sent you a check for $34.60 representing payment of the bills for which you advanced the money in connection with the survey of the lot on which the church is to be built, and the recording of the deed to the small tract which was given by the Orsen heirs to square the plot.

It is understood that the name of the new church is to be the Memorial Church of Juneau. That is the name that we agreed upon in our conference with you when we first took up the matter and it is the name that Mr. Scheide approves.

I am concerned with reference to the amount of the bill which Mr. Troast will present in his architect's fees and I am going

to ask you to use your good offices with him to cut his fees down to the lowest possible minimum consistent with honorable business dealings, especially in view of the fact that he is a Presbyterian elder and that this is a Presbyterian mission enterprise.

We have notified Mr. Petersen that since you have now returned to Juneau we will expect you to keep in close touch with the progress of the building and to see that everything is done according to specifications, a copy of which I presume you have.

I am also greatly concerned with reference to the furnishing of the new building. I have made no financial provision for it because, as I remember, you planned to use the pews in the present church building and other equipment which you have accumulated for the new church and that whatever additional equipment was necessary was going to be provided by the gifts of thenative congregation. Therefore we are not expecting that any amount will be requested from the Board beyond the payment of the cost of the construction of the building, and the architect's fees. Whatever needs to be done in the way of grading the lawn surrounding the property should be arranged for as free labor by the congregation. We will not assume any financial responsibility for any such expense.

Faithfully yours

JMS-P

Juneau, Alaska,
December 2, 1938.

Dr.John M. Somerndike,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Doctor:

" The activities of the month have centered around the final letting of the building contract for the"Memorial Church." "During the days in which the Board was in telegraphic correspondence with Mr.Troast the Architect, I was continually being called into consultation. The labor situation in Juneau made this exceedingly necessary. In fact since we have begun the erection of the building we have had C.I.O. pickets walking before the job every day except one. The builders all belong to the A.F.of L. so the C.I.O.s say they are unfair to organized labor. However we have been progressing and the final concrete is being poured.

The contract under which the building is being erected is a cost plus contract. This gives me the opportunity to work on the building without objection by the contractor. Being a carpenter by trade the men seem glad to have me there, and the contractor is consulting with me as well as with Mr.Troast, as to places where we can save. I have saved in wages thus far on the building $100. Next week will start the erection of the walls and frame and there I can add a carpenter's labor. During the pouring of the concrete I am Doing checking up on construction and running such errands with my car as will save the time of the contractor or other paid man. The work being done is excellent in quality. The strike of the transfer men makes it necessary for the contractor to haul heavy materials on his own trucks. All light stuff, such as nails, form wire, and priming paints I have been hauling myself.

With so much activity going on my days are long. It is up at six A.M. and at the job at eight. Seldom is the day over before eleven P.M. For the past three weeks Rev.Wheeler from Haines has been with me while serving on the District Grand Jury. Mrs.Waggoner was called to Kenai in October on account of sickness in my son's family. Rev.Wheeler and I are running bachelor hall. Rev.Wheeler has helped much in my church since his visit to Juneau.

I received your wire re laying the"Corner Stone". For many reasons it seems wise to us here to postpone the laying of the stone until the Spring Meeting of Presbytery. The inclement weather at this time of the year will lessen the interest in the occasion in Juneau. Another item is that the name of the church is to be changed from the "First Church" to"Memorial" Church", which act can be done only in a meeting of Presbytery and by act of Presbytery. Rev.Wheeler and I agree that we can make much more of the occasion by having other members of Presbytery present and have the public present. Mr.Troast and I will have to make the stone. We have provided in the forms a place for the insertion of the stone. Further, I feel that the dedication should come after the furnishing is in place as far as possible. We would like to have a member or representative of the Board present for that occasion. Dr.Evans told me that he would like to come to Alaska when I saw him last year. Dr.Taylor of Wilkinsburg also wants to come in the near future. Their presence would add much to the Board's standing in Alaska both in spiritual and material things. Hope that this can be arranged.

Sincerely yours,
David Waggoner.

Dec.
19th
1938

Rev. David Waggoner,
Box 1421,
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Waggoner:

I have your letter of December 2nd. It is entirely satisfactory to me to delay the laying of the cornerstone of the new church building until the meeting of the Presbytery in the Spring. When the cornerstone is laid, we want Mr. Glasse to be invited to participate in the program. This must be done and nothing must be allowed to interfere with it. The dedication services may be held later or at whatever time you and the congregation think best.

I expect to be in Alaska early next summer, and it may be possible that I can be present for the dedication service.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

Jan.
17th
1939

Rev. David Waggoner,
Box 1421,
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Waggoner:

I was glad to receive your letter of December 26th. It pleases me to know that the new Memorial church building is progressing so satisfactorily and that it is attracting so much favorable comment on the part of the people in Juneau. I think that when the building is completed it is going to give a new stimulus to our Presbyterian prestige in Juneau, if not in the entire Territory.

Regarding the situation at Douglas, it seems to me that in view of what you have written we should continue the program that we have been conducting there, and we shall look to you to continue to do so at least until further notice. So far as I am personally concerned, I would rather see it continued than to give it up, but we are under some obligations to avoid what seems to be a violation of comity agreements.

Please keep me advised regarding the progress of the building.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

Aug.
18th
1939

Rev. David Waggoner,
Box 1421,
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Waggoner:

Dr. King is not expected in the office until September 1st, and I am therefore obliged to hold your letters of August 4th for his attention at that time. He has already written you that it was impossible for him to plan to come to Juneau for the dedication services of the Memorial Church building; and I am sure you could appreciate his inability to comply with your request since his program was already filled and it was impossible for him to break his engagements on such short notice.

We were sorry to learn that you have decided to terminate your service in Juneau as of September 30th, but can understand your reason for so doing in view of Mrs. Waggoner's ill health. We hope that the change will be very beneficial and refreshing to her.

I realize that you must be desirous of completing your arrangements to leave Juneau and therefore wish to assure you that the traveling expenses of yourself and your family will of course be paid by the Board. I am sure there is no need to remind you that these expenses should be kept down to the very minimum.

I would also suggest that you dispose of the furniture in the manse according to your best judgment since as you state it is your personal property. I fear that Board action would be required on the question of reimbursing you for the furniture if left in the manse; and since the Board is not scheduled to meet until November, this would unquestionably delay your departure.

Dr. King will be able to write you officially with reference to the other questions raised in your letters. I regret that due to vacations, etc., it is impossible for me to secure any official ruling on these matters at the present time.

With very best wishes, I am

Cordially yours,

BH

UNIT OF ALASKA WORK.

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UNITED PROMOTIONS
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STATED CLERK
REV DAVID WAGGONER,
BOX 1421, JUNEAU, ALASKA

Juneau, Alaska,
August 4,1939.

Board of National Missions,
Attention of Dr.King.
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

My dear Dr.King:

The letter informing me of your appointment to the Board as Alaska Secretary has been mislaid, hence I can only address you as Dr.King without your initials. Please pardon the misplacement of letter.

I send you our greetings and welcome you to your new field of labor. May the Master's blessing attend you in your task, and your fellowship with Him in your service bring you joy and daily courage for the duties which shall be yours.

Our association in the Alaska field of service will of necessity be very brief. For this I am sorry. However years pass and service is given to another. I will reach my seventieth birthday in April, after thirty eight years plus in Alaska service, and my task must pass on to new shoulders.

Last night I sent you the following telegram:

Dr.King.
Board of National Missions,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

Juneau, Alaska,
August 3,1939.

Presbytery meets Juneau August nineteenth stop. Dedication Memorial Church August twentieth stop Mrs. Waggoner and I ask to be relieved and successor appointed by October ~~fixxx~~ stop Presbytery has many other important problems needing your presence stop Doctor Thomson when consulted advised invite you to this meeting. Letter follows.

Signed David Waggoner, Clerk.

For the past two winters Mrs. Waggoner has not been well. A year ago she was confined to her bed for four months suffering from a type of rheumatism. We feel that she should not spend another winter in the north. Also that the work needs the service of the wife of the missionary in full measure, which Mrs. Waggoner will not probably be able to give. Since our time of service expires April 1st anyway, wisdom would indicate that the change should be made at the beginning of the winter when a program can be initiated and worked. Our task has been to erect the new Memorial Church building. With the new plant a new program is to be inaugurated. A program of work which includes, recreational, educational, and evangelistic endeavor can now be begun in the new plant. This type of work could never have been accomplished in the old temporary building with a single room. Dr. Somerndike had a pretty definite plan for the future program for the work in Juneau. The new building with equipment added, as funds can provide, will provide us with an opportunity for large service as is found no other place in Alaska.

The new building makes it possible for an entirely new and enlarged program to be initiated. We have been in the building since June 4th, though the building is not entirely finished. As far as possible we have inaugurated a different order of service and have been preparing the people for a new program. Natives are very conservative in adopting new orders of service and program. We have been able to prepare them for a change with very little difficulty by beginning changes at the first service, and in telling them that we would have many changes in the future, which would make us like the churches in the States. For this reason we feel that our successor should initiate the program of the new plant and not we, for in all probability he will have different ideas and a different way of accomplishing his plans.

In making the change in the personel of the workers in the Memorial Church, and in closing our work in Alaska, there are several matters to be adjusted. These matters could be adjusted speedily if you could visit Alaska at this time. There are the problems of the vacant fields of Presbytery, some of them serious if our work is to go on without interference of other denominations, and the problems which grow out of the Mission Boat Princeton. I am not now on the National Missions Committeee, though I served there about 25 years. I did listen in on a discussion had in Dr.Thomson's office in Seattle, at the time I was talking with him concerning our contemplated retirement from Alaska. It was our opinion in view of the problems in Juneau, and the problems of the Presbytery, that I should urge you to visit Alaska for our Fall Meeting of Presbytery that you should have a full and definite knowledge of the Alaska situation. Dr.Thomson was very anxious that you should come, and said that he would so state to you if you asked his opinion.

I understand that the promise Dr.Somerndike made to me that the Board of National Missions would supplement the amount of Pension received from the Pension Board, provided pension amounts due after the age of 65 were left with accumulations department, so that a sum would come to me sufficient to provide for the necessary expenses of living, has been voided by the action of Assembly. Am I correct? This is a serious matter to us, for we like many other missionaries have spent our savings in carrying on our missionary activities.

In our commission when we came to Alaska, we were promised the moving expense for our family and our household goods back to our home from which we came, provided we remained in the service of the Board for five years or more. The missionaries were also given a certain number of months salary to help them adjust themselves in their new home. What will this provision do for us?

Presbytery and Board agreed that it was a foolish policy to pay the expense of moving the furniture &c of missionaries in and out of Alaska upon appointment or retirement. From that date the Board undertook to furnish the manses with the heavier and necessary furniture and thus avoid the moving expense. We were the only missionaries in this Presbytery who owned all the furnishings in the manse. It was requested when the new policy was adopted that our furniture, stoves &c should be inventoried and that this price should prevail when we retired from the Alaska work. The General Missionary at the time refused to make inventory of privately owned furnishings of the missionaries for such future adjustment.

Our question is as to what the Board wants to do with the furniture in our manse? Shall we sell what we will not need in our retirement home, and the Board ship at its expense the balance to such a place as we shall locate for our new residence?

After many years residence in Alaska we had a visit from Mr. Varian Banks. He was astonished to learn that we did not have a furnace in our manse, and immediately ordered one installed. After I was appointed to work on the Princeton Mission Boat, Mrs. Waggoner was fireman for the furnace. The task of trying to keep fires with poor coal, the dirt of the ashes, and trying to help in Christian work in Juneau became too much for her. Mrs. Waggoner asked the Board to install an oil burner in the furnace which would give us a less fuel expense. Dr.Montgomery replied that there were no funds for such help at the time. He promised through Dr.Diven ,Chairman of the National Missions Committee, that if Mrs.Waggoner installed the burner that the Board would eventually refund to her one half the cost. Mrs. Waggoner installed the burner and worked to pay the bill. She paid $600. which she earned. Dr.Somerndike planned to cancel this bill and not make the refund, because we have rented some of the space we did not need after our boys went to college. He did not understand condition or he would never taken that stand. We had a sick boy who needed help which our salary could not cover. Also the cost of fuel to heat the house was beyond our means. In January of 1938 I paid the Standard Oil Company $77.00 for oil and the drayman $5.00. This was consumed in one month. (Something should be done for our successor in the way of storm windows and wall insulation or you cannot keep him in Alaska without he rents vacant space). Our monthly fuel bill for six months of the year is $31.90. and for the other six months about three fifths of that amount. What adjustment will the Board make in this item?

The Board has been building a new plant called the Memorial Church. All contracts and plans have been made by the Board through N.L. Troast and Associates, Architects. I have had no personal responsibility in financing the project, nor in plans and contracts. Perhaps with one exception. It was stipulated when a cost plus percentage contract was made that I should be privileged to work on the building with the other carpenters. I was a carpenter as a young man before coming to Alaska, having earned my way through college by carpenter work. When the amount set aside for the carpenter's contract was exhausted, I with a Native elder have done all of the finish work. In fact we are working just now trying to complete the woodwork and varnishing, which had to be laid aside during fishing season, by the time set for dedication. The amount my labor would have amounted to had I been paid for my labor would have been $1400. To this may be added about $200. more for the work we are doing now. You should visit Alaska to care for the final settlements and adjustments in this building enterprise. It should be done before I leave Alaska and unable to answer any questions which should arise.

I would like to hear from you as to your reaction on the above problems. I will as soon as possible compile list of furnishings which are in the house and may be purchased by the Board or by our successor.

With best wishes for your success in your work for Alaska, I am

Sincerely yours,

David Waggoner

NATIONAL MISSIONS
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JUNEAU, ALASKA
STATED CLERK
REV DAVID WAGGONER.
BOX 1421, JUNEAU, ALASKA

Juneau, Alaska,
August 4, 1939.

Board of National Missions,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Sir:

The Pioneers of Alaska are planning to erect a monument designating the spot where the founders of Juneau made their first landing at Juneau and discovered the gold which brought about the establishing the settlement which has now become the City of Juneau. The City of Juneau is the first white settlement made under the American flag.

Since the arrival of Dick Harris and Joe Juneau the mouth of the creek where their camp was made has changed. The tide flats have also been filled in and people have built their homes on the site so made. As near to the actual spot where the founders of Juneau made their camp as can be ascertained is located the new Memorial Presbyterian Church.

The Pioneers have requested me to ask the Board of National Missions for permission to erect the desired monument on the lot which is occupied by the Memorial Church. The Monument according to sketch will be very attractive---made of glacier stone set in cement--with a large bronze plaque with the faces of the two founders cast in it, and a suitable inscription explaining the purpose of the monument. It will not detract from the appearance of the Church , but rather add to it. It will also draw visitors to Juneau to the monument and to our Memorial Church. It will no doubt add many visitors to the Board's enterprise in Juneau.

My own reaction to the request is that it be granted, for I believe it will add to the importance of our work and its promotion in the States.

Sincerely yors,

David Waggoner.

NATIONAL MISSIONS
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REV DAVID WAGGONER,
BOX 1421, JUNEAU, ALASKA

Juneau, Alaska,
August 21,1939.

Rev,Everett B.King,D.D.,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Doctor:

Thank you for your letter in reply to my wire. We are sorry that you could not be with us for our meeting of Presbytery, and the Dedication of yesterday. We had a splendid day yesterday in spite of the heavy rainfall. Our own people are not yet all returned from the cannery work, yet we had a fair representation at the morning communion service, as well as a larger attendance at the formal dedication which took place in the evening. Three of our sister churches were represented in the service and a large number from the Northern Light Church.

In regard to our leaving Alaska in October, we feel more and more that it will be necessary for Mrs. Waggoner to seek warmer and drier weather by that time. I have confered with the members of Presbytery who were here over the week end. We are sorry that we cannot fill out our entire ministry in Alaska before retiring. Both health conditions and the fact that our successor should open the new program of work reconciles us to the change. We shall pray for the success of our successor as he undertakes his leadership in the Juneau Memorial Church.

I am enclosing the furniture list which I mentioned in my letter of August 4th. This list includes the furniture which we can dispose of and replace to the extent required in our new home. The prices given are the cost and the price we can take at the present time. The sale value is what we must have, or take the article to the States for use in our new home. If the article is taken to the States freight must be provided.It is very important to us to know what the Board's desire in the matter is.

We have been notified that a new Steamer Strike will take place the last day of September unless the Companies shall acceed to the demands of the Unions. Our effects therefore will have to leave Alaska by the 20th of September to insure the removal of our household effects from the wharves before they are picketed. We will therefore have to know the Board's desire as to purchase of furniture, and provision for the freight transportation of such furniture as we shall take, and of our household goods. I speak of this since this was the understanding with the Board when we came to Alaska, as I mentioned in my letter of August 4th.

It is probable that the Canadian Steamers will continue to sail to Alaska, even though the American Steamers are tied up. Hence it will be possible for us to have our own transportation out. Freight can only be carried on American boats. Will you therefore wire me as to your reaction on purchase of furniture and freight payment. This will be necessary if we are to be able to get our effects in a new home for use during the winter months.

I shall await your reply to this letter and also of Auguat 4th with concern, since our future plans depend upon the Board's action.

Sincerely yours, David Waggoner

FURNITURE LIST/ JUNEAU MANSE

Item		Cost Value		Sale Price
Study Desk		$45.00		$25.00
Desk Chair		25.00		15.00
Rockers	#1 Wood	7.50		4.00
	2 "	5.00		2.50
	3 "	5.00		2.50
	4 "	5.00		3.50
Center Table		7.50		4.00
2 Magazine Racks				2.00
Dining Table (Round)		35.00		22.50
Library Table		7.50		4.50
Overstuffed Chair		25.00		15.00
"	#2	20.00		12.00
Tea Server		10.00		5.00
Kitchen Chirs--Lot--				3.00
Dining Chairs Lot---		30.00		10.00
Kitchen Table		7.50		3.00
Electric Range		195.00		45.00
Laundry Heater --Oil Burner copper coil		100.00		85.00
Oil Burner in Furnace		600.00		300.00
Beds -- Frames Springs Matta				
	#1	35.00)		
	2	25.00)	110.00	80.00
	3	25.00)		
	4	25.00)		
2 Extra Mattresses		20.00		
Folding Bed--Davenport		30.00		10.00
Cedar Couch		20.00		10.00
Grunow Refrigerator		145.00		90.00
Curtain Rod Assembly		10.00		3.75
Linoleum	Kitchen	50.00		35.00
" Rug	Study	10.00		5.00
	Hall	5.00		2.50
	Bathroom	5.00		2.50
Music Cabinet		2.00		1.00
Stand Table--(Magazine)		2.00		1.00
Washing Machine		56.00		35.00
Mangle Ironer		59.00		35.00
Dressers -Glass	#1	25.00		10.00
	2	9.00		4.50
Chest Drawers		5.00		2.50

1693.20

89.20

Sept.
12th
1939

Rev. Mr. David Waggoner,
Box 1421,
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Waggoner:

I have delayed answering your wire and your letter because I wanted to be able to write to you with some degree of authority. It was necessary for me to go into conference with Dr. Morse in order to clear some of the questions that you had asked and find out about where our money was going to come from. I sincerely trust that these few days of delay have not greatly inconvenienced you or caused you to change any of your plans.

First of all, may I say that I want to express my appreciation for your years of service in Alaska. I know that you must be leaving the field with a certain degree of satisfaction mingled with sorrow and sadness. Such is life. May the grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, be always sufficient for you.

Regarding the supplementary retirement allowance by our Board, I am pleased to say to you that your allowance will be $297.51 a year, paid in twelve monthly installments. The rule of the Board, as you know, provides that a missionary on retirement shall receive a total pension of one-half the salary with a fifteen per cent allowance for the manse when there is one. You have received salary of $1753.75. One-half of that amount is $876.88. Therefore, your allowance totals $297.51 which added to your pension will equal one-half of your present total salary. I wish this figure might be more. Certainly your years of service and sacrifice would merit many more dollars; but this is the best that we are able to do.

In regard to the question that you have asked about the missionaries being given a certain number of months' salary to help them adjust themselves in their new home, I cannot offer you any encouraging word. Dr. Morse was positive in his statement that the Board had no funds available for such purposes.

Another question that you raised was concerning an adjustment by the Board for your fuel bill. I am sorry to say to you that Dr. Morse also was very definite in saying that the Board had no funds available for such an item.

Your other question had to deal with your household furniture. We have gone into this matter very thoroughly. In the first place, we have checked through your list as you itemized it for us. We have also sought ways and means to raise every dollar that you have asked for. However, we found ourselves in a very difficult and delicate position. Again due to the lack of income

and to an overtaxed budget, there were no funds available for this purpose. Dr. Morse assured me that the only possible way that this amount could be taken care of would be through the salvage of the budget, if any. We brought Mr. Wonacott, our Board's Treasurer, into the conference and sought his counsel as well. Here is our final conclusion: We will of course pay the $150 that would be necessary to ship your personal effects to Washington. In addition, I am authorized to offer you $600 for the furniture which will remain in the manse.

I sincerely trust that you can and will appreciate our position. It is not a question of what we want to do; it is all a question of what we can do. If we had available funds, the adjustment might be different.

I shall look forward to hearing from you as soon as possible; and if I have left any unanswered questions in your mind, I shall endeavor to clear them up in another letter.

When you return to the States, I shall eagerly look forward to seeing you and talking to you about our work in Alaska.

Yours in His service,

EBK:BH

May 7, 1940

Mailed May 8th

Mrs. David Waggoner
2100 Sunset Drive
Bellingham, Wash.

Dear Mrs. Waggoner:

I have read through your letter of April 17th very carefully and very thoughtfully. In reading of the sacrifices that you have made, I feel that our Board of National Missions has not been measuring up all the time to a fair and just support. However, we cannot unscramble scrambled eggs. Those things that have been done have been done, and I am quite sure that through it all there has been a real Christian motive in it. In my experience with the Board of National Missions, I have found the men always to be fair and just and Christian. Of course, human beings make mistakes, but I do feel that whenever mistakes have been made, the Board of National Missions when possible has been perfectly willing to make adjustments.

You did not tell me whether or not the proposition would be acceptable to you for the purchase price of the furniture. I am assuming that my quoted figure of $370.88 will be acceptable. Therefore I am sending to you a check for that amount. If this is not satisfactory, you certainly do have the privilege of returning the check to me and then we can see to it that your furniture from Juneau is shipped to you in Bellingham.

Cordially yours,

EBK:E

enc.

2100 Sunset Drive,
Bellingham, Wash.
April 17, 1940.

Rev.Elliott B.King, D.D.,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

My dear Doctor King:

Your letter in regard to our furniture, and the dear people in Juneau arrived yesterday. Mr.Waggoner and I are both happy that Walter Sobileff and Genevieve, his charming wife, are to succeed us in the new church at Juneau. It will be a difficult field for Walter's first charge. His record of meeting difficult situations and mastering them will help him to succeed here also. We feel that divine strength and support can and does supplement our weak efforts when we rely upon our Father for them. We feel that these two young people have had this experience and will give their all to the Master and His Church. Our prayers will always follow them.

We are glad that you were able to visit Alaska and see the need of the Field first hand. We realize that throughout the years there have been many changes in plans by the Board, and that we who have served contiuously/ through these last thirty-nine years, have a different view from one who has newly entered into the work and plans as they are now.

In 1901, when we dedicated our all to the work in Alaska, Mr. Waggoner just coming out of school, had to borrow money to outfit us for our work, and the Board advanced us a sum on the year's salary to assist in purchasing furniture and household goods. Our salary was small for meeting the expenses in the pioneer field at Klawock. This position, which we both felt was a call from God, and demanded our all, we accepted, feeling that our Father would supply our needs. In three years, by careful saving, the debt was all paid.

I have never drawn one cent of salary from the Board, I never wanted a salary. One of my strong principles as a girl was that I would live upon my husband's salary when and if I married. When we arrived in Klawock there was no school, and the Natives begged me to teach them. Dr.Sheldon Jackson offered me a commission and salary to teach for the Government. I taught school part of each day the first winter, but did not receive a salary, as I felt I wanted to contribute to the work of my husband.

Births and deaths drained our small income from the Board. In 1907 David was Commissioner to General Assembly. We had burried our first baby and Ralph our second baby was eight months old. I wanted to go home to Kansas City, but there was no money to make the trip, buy clothes &c. The wives and children of National Missionaries received no travel expense in these days. Mr.Waggoner borrowed money to pay my expenses home and back to Alaska. We were happy that we could borrow, but it took skimping and saving to repay this debt. I am not complaining, but am trying to give you the picture as we see it now.Three more births came. Robert our son in South America was the only one we were permitted to keep. of these three. The Klawock church and manse were built during these days, to which we contributed everything we could in labor and cash.

Ralph and Robert were in need of schooling, and because the Government school was crowded, white children were barred from admission. The Juneau Native church being vacant, Mr.Waggoner applied for a transfer to meet this need. This was in 1914. The Board granted this request.

The present manse in Juneau was being built by the General Missionary. We arrived in Juneau on the Mission Boat Lois the latter part of September with six children for the Sheldon Jackson School and our personal effects which we had brought with us. The Board through the General Missionary advised us to dispose of our furniture or leave it in the manse at Klawock, as the Juneau manse would be furnished. We sold some things, but left stoves, beds, tables and other things in the Klawock manse. When we arrived in Juneau we were requested by the General Missionary to live on the Lois until the carpenters vacated the house. When we did get into the house the the only piece of furniture in the manse was an old worn out kitchen range. Dr.Condit informed us that receipts were falling off for the Board on account of the European War, so we would have to furnish the manse ourselves and get along the best we could. We understood about the financial condition of the Board, but our furniture was in Klawock. We made our beds on the floor, and lived a camp life in the house while it was being completed, and we secured articles of furniture as our salary would permit. As the years went by we collected enough furniture to make ourselves and our visiting friends comfortable. We have never lived "poor" , what I mean is, that what we have had of comforts we have enjoyed thoroughly and have ignored the discomforts. In addition to the furnishing of the manse the interior painting, varnishing, building of cupboards, &c were left for the Waggoners to purchase and apply. Which with the interior upkeep and improvements the Waggoners have borne for the 25 years they occupied the manse.

we never did get the Klawock furniture

The many years spent on the the mission boats in Alaska presented a great opportunity but were full of hardships and much expense. Both our boys, as babies, were raised on the boats while we were at Klawock. We appreciate the unique opportunity for service which we have had in Alaska. We are thankful that God through our National Missions Board called us to spend our lives in this wonderful field.

After ten years in the local church at Juneau, in 1924, the Board again asked Mr.Waggoner if he would be willing to leave his home and take the general work of the Presbytery on the Princeton. We saw this as a greater opportunity to serve so Mr.Waggoner accepted. The salary was increased, but it had to be divided, and the family only received what he had received before the salary was advanced. Extra clothing and personal expense, together with the many calls for contributions to the churches, the needs and projects of the villages, such as electric lighting and water systems, took the extra salary. The churches built at Craig and Kake received financial help as well as the superintendance and labor of the Boat Missionary. The school and other expenses for the boys increased with the years. However they both began working at ten years of age to help out. They enjoyed doing it, and it was valuable training for them.

After David left for steady work on the Princeton we were not comfortable in the manse because I could not satisfactorilly fire the furnace, so I begged for an oil-burner. I took the matter of an oil-burner

up with Dr. Robert Joseph Diven of Wrangell. He was the chairman of National Missions for the Presbytery of Alaska at that time. Dr.Diven said that the Board could not install an oil-burner in one manse without doing it for all manses; But that he had written the Board, and the Board was willing for me to install a burner at our own expense , and that he, Dr. Diven, had recommended that the Board reimburse us to the extent of one-half the prive of the oil-burner when the Board should take over our furniture. Mr.Waggoner did not favor putting the burner in, saying there was no money of our own with which to do it. I asked him, if I earn the money can I have it put in? He consented, thinking it was an impossibility. At the time our son Ralph was at home sick. Robert was finishing high school.I told the boys if they could find two companionable boys to occupy our spare bedroom I would board them and install the oil-burner. We found two fine young men working in the mine, and afterward took a third. I paid $600. for the burner, installed. Out of the income from these boys I paid for the burner.The Waggoner family has always called the burner my property. We have always felt sure of this $300. from the Board to buy a heating plant for our new home when we retired.

We left the burner in excellent condition, and through the years it has been a great comfort to us. I would dislike seeing it removed from the manse. When the burner was installed the furnace was not mutulated in the least, and the parts are all there for replacement if coal is desired for fuel. The oil-burner keeps a steady heat and is free from dirt, soot, and ashes. It saves hours of work for the missionary's wife.

Following the World War the Board decided to furnish all manses with the heavier furnishings, and thus elimnate the mounting cost of shipping new missionary's furniture in and out. The change in personel of the Presbytery was shifting so often that the expense for freight was excessively large. At that time Mr.Waggoner requested the General Missionary that the furniture in our house be appraised and bought so that we would be on the same footing as the rest of the Presbytery, since we were one of the few missionaries who owned all their furniture. Dr.Condit said to wait as funds were low and soon the Board would be in a better position financially. We waited.

It has been put off year by year for some excuse or another, until last October when we retired and left Alaska. We wrote repeatedly last summer to the Board whether to sell the furniture ourselves or would the Board buy it. About a month before we left we were requested to leave the furniture in the manse. We had sold a few articles and could have sold the rest at our schedule of prices, but stopped as we thought the Board would pay us half what it cost us. We felt that since the Board had provided furniture for other manses since 1920 that they should be willing to pay for part of the depreciation on our furniture since we were using it in the Board's servce from that date to this. We had kept all prices of the furnitute with this in mind. We did not consider a jobber's price on the furniture for it is at a minimum, but what we could go to the market and replace the articles at a used furniture store. We have visited stores here and find that we cannot replace many of the items for anywhere near the price we quoted as value.

We are happily situated in Bellingham. The people here are very cordial. Mr.Waggoner is supplying the pulpit at Everson while the church is securing a new minister. We are enjoying our acre of good earth.

David is busy building a temporary bath-room, a shelter for our car, and a back porch, thus making our little cabin a real home for our temporary residence. We hope that you might have had time to stop and see us on your return from Alaska, and our hearts and prayers are still with the people up there, the people who have been our interest and joy throughout the years. We hope we may see you when you come our way again.

Mr. Waggoner is again invited to be the guest host for the visit of the Christian Fellowship Tour to Alaska. This Party sails from Seattle July 30th. He has contacted this Tour in Seattle and accompanied it for the last five years. There are over one hundred Christians registered in the Party for this year. This gives him an intimate association with Christians from all parts of the United States, and an opportunity for promoting the missionary enterprises of Alaska. This is one of his great joys and gives him the opportunity to visit again the people whom he loves.

May God bless you and give you wisdom and guidance for your work in Alaska and elsewhere.

Sincerely,

Mary P. Waggoner.

(Mrs. David Waggoner.)

2 100 Sunset Drive,
Bellingham, Wash.
O ctober 15,1940.

Rev.Elliott B. King,D.D.,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Dr.King:

Your letter re assisting in raising funds for a motor boat attached to replace the Princeton came during a critical illness of Mrs. Waggoner, or rather a critical time in the sickness. Mrs. Waggoner has not been well for some time, and as you will recall we left Alaska before our service term in order to get Mrs. Waggoner to southern California for the winter last year. The questions you raise in your letter, and your request for help, had to be delayed until now on account of the situation here.

I do not know just what your plan is in which I am to assist in relation to the new boat. I presume that the filling some speaking engagements away from home will be in the plan. Mrs. Waggoner's condition will have its effect upon such a plan, for it will be impossible for me to be absent from home. When my son was here enroute from Alaska to Princeton Seminary, I took him to Seattle at the close of his visit to catch his train east. While I was absent during the day I had to secure the services of a woman to stay with Mrs. Waggoner, to relieve her of the necessity of the physical strain of waiting upon herself and preparing her food. The Doctor says, that while Mrs.Waggoner is now improving, that it will be months before we can expect her to near normal. Much as I desire to help in this way it will be impossible for the present.

I do some correspondence with people of influence and some financial means. Opportunity presents itself frequently for me to meet such persons personally and directly. Perhaps I can be of some help in this field. To be of help I must be fully informed of the plans and specifications of the contemplated boat, its equipment, the program of service planned for the boat in relation to the Presbytery, Presbyterial, Sheldon Jackson, School, Evangelism, Sunday Schools, &c. One must be sold himself on the project before he can sell the idea to a stranger. The Princeton did not hold very closely to the original purpose for which it was built in the later part of her service. This departure was a disappointment to some of those who contributed to her building. Ofcourse the conditions in the Presbytery have changed during the years, and will likely change more rapidly in these new defense developments. A donor must understand the present set-up and the probable changes which the years will require. He must understand that the program must of necessity be elastic.

If you think I can be of help in any other way than be absent from home at this time, please let me know. If convenient will you send a copy of the blue prints and such other items as will help me to be intelligent in talking for the boat. We assure you of our interest and prayers.

Sincerely, yours
David Waggoner
David Waggoner.

October 25, 1940

Rev. Mr. David Waggoner
2100 Sunset Drive
Bellingham, Washington

Dear Mr. Waggoner:

Thank you for your interest and for your willingness to do what is asked in promoting the new Alaskan boat. I am hopeful that within the next few days we shall be able to make a definite announcement that sufficient funds have been secured.

If we find we are going to need more money, I shall send you additional information to help you promote the cause.

Cordially yours,

EBK:DH

Juneau, Alaska,
December 26, 1938.

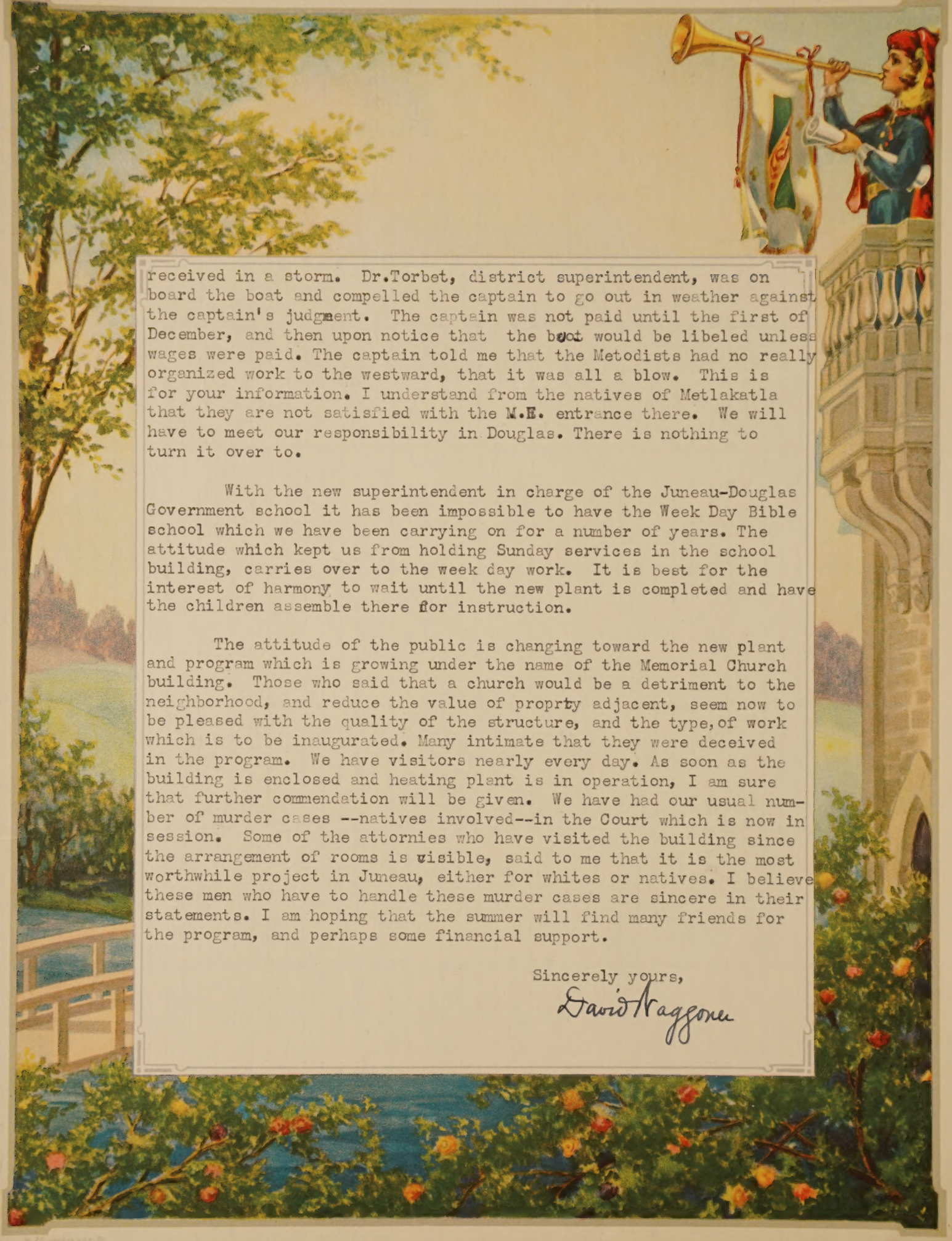
Dr.John M. Somerndike,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Brother:

I am enclosing herewith my report for November 15-December 14. The principal item of interest for the month is the progress in the building of the Memerial Church. It has rained nearly every day since the building started. Fortunately there have been but few days when it has been cold with the rain. Three times some of the workers have been so wet and cold that they went home before quiting time to change and warm up. The so called mild weather has been in our favor for it has enabled us to get the pouring of concrete done without freezing. Today (December 26) finds the first real cold weather--12 degrees above zero. The men are taking their extra Christmas holiday. As long as it is cold it will hold up the rate of progress, and the timber if frozen will crack when nails are driven.

In order to cut down in the expense of building I am permitted by the contractor to work with the carpenters. Every days wages I can save means $10. less for building. It is fortunate that I have a car and can do errands which keeps the contractor on the job. This saves the wage of foreman at $1.50 per hour. Since the building started I have been every day at the the work except two days when I had a cold from getting chilled when wet, and one day a week for extra time at regular work. Thus far we have been able to keep well within the cost estimates for the building.

You ask about the advisability of turning our native work in Douglas over to the Methodists, since they have taken over the work of the Congregationalists. As far as I know the Methodists have held only one service in Duoglas since the combine. The only work for natives done in Douglas, aside from ours, is that undertaken by the Alaska Evangelization Society(Independents of the Machen Group) who are trying their best to get a foothold in our flock. They hold their Sunday School in the home of our member, and the pupils are our own children. You may be aware that the New Methodist Organization has attempted to start boat work out of Seward. One of our own members, a deacon in the church, went as captain of the boat and served about three months. The boat was then laid up on account of damage



received in a storm. Dr.Torbet, district superintendent, was on board the boat and compelled the captain to go out in weather against the captain's judgment. The captain was not paid until the first of December, and then upon notice that the boat would be libeled unless wages were paid. The captain told me that the Metodists had no really organized work to the westward, that it was all a blow. This is for your information. I understand from the natives of Metlakatla that they are not satisfied with the M.E. entrance there. We will have to meet our responsibility in Douglas. There is nothing to turn it over to.

With the new superintendent in charge of the Juneau-Douglas Government school it has been impossible to have the Week Day Bible school which we have been carrying on for a number of years. The attitude which kept us from holding Sunday services in the school building, carries over to the week day work. It is best for the interest of harmony to wait until the new plant is completed and have the children assemble there for instruction.

The attitude of the public is changing toward the new plant and program which is growing under the name of the Memorial Church building. Those who said that a church would be a detriment to the neighborhood, and reduce the value of proprty adjacent, seem now to be pleased with the quality of the structure, and the type, of work which is to be inaugurated. Many intimate that they were deceived in the program. We have visitors nearly every day. As soon as the building is enclosed and heating plant is in operation, I am sure that further commendation will be given. We have had our usual number of murder cases --natives involved--in the Court which is now in session. Some of the attornies who have visited the building since the arrangement of rooms is visible, said to me that it is the most worthwhile project in Juneau, either for whites or natives. I believe these men who have to handle these murder cases are sincere in their statements. I am hoping that the summer will find many friends for the program, and perhaps some financial support.

Sincerely yours,

David Ragsone